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GIFTED POLISH ACTRESS.

MADAME BERTHA KALICH IS WINNING FAME IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING PARTS.

Familiar With English Language Six Years Ago, She Has Now Mastered Our Speech—One of a Race to Produce Famous Players.

With so much interest focused on the openings in Russia, it would be strange indeed if we did not receive a couple of Russian drama. The leading actors of the country are now centering their attention upon the Russian play, "Monna Vanna" the title role of which is being essayed by Madame Bertha Kalich, a Polish actress who won fame on the Yiddish theatres on the Bowery in New York City.

Madame Kalich may not be considered a beautiful woman but through the naturalness of her acting she touches every chord of humanity that glows in the human breast. Six years ago she did not know a word of English, yet her mastery at the present time of one of the most difficult of all speaking tongues, is remarkable. Not only does she speak English well but she is familiar with five other languages—German, Polish, Russian, French and Yiddish. For years she has been acting in the Russian and Hebrew theatres of New York City. Her first appearance in an English speaking play was a year or so ago when she played the minor part in "Fedora." Her earlier performances were disappointing but at the end of a fortnight she made a profound impression upon her audience.

MADAME BERTHA KALICH

So far this is the story of Monna Vanna for the American people are not accustomed to the mannerisms and acting of the Russian plays.

Madame Bertha Kalich is tall and of the brunette type usual to the Hebrew, with eyes that while most expressive, can hardly be said to be winning. She cannot be classed as beautiful, but her art has a mimicry which is sure to bring fame to her. Critics lay great faith in her possibilities as an actress. They believe that after thorough schooling on the American stage, the requirements of which are far different from those of the Russian, she will become famous, for she comes of a race which has achieved wonders. And when we encounter marked talent in the Hebrew race no one living can predict how many rungs of the ladder of fame may be traversed successfully. The greatest actors, not only of the present age but of the past, have been and are Jews. Of the women we have from Rachel to Bernhardt, and the men range from Dawison to Edwin Booth, while passing reflections may be given to the ability of David Garrick, Mrs. Siddons and a host of others in whose veins were some drops of Oriental blood.

Bertha Kalich's appearance in Chicago was greeted with an outburst of enthusiasm which continued throughout the many weeks of her performance there. Such a well-known critic as W. H. Hubbard of the Chicago Tribune in reviewing "Monna Vanna" and its leading actress, said, "Madame Kalich is enrolled in the list of great artists. She is now an actress of peculiar and uncommonly attractive qualities and gives every promise of becoming in a few seasons one of the most notable women on the American stage. Watching her during the week has brought conviction that she is the possessor of remarkable talents and that these talents are susceptible of a developing and shaping which can but place her high in the esteem of a large class of the best theatre-goers and add another great artist to the small list of really gifted players that our stage can boast. She has the power indisputable to any artist who is to endure and whose work is to be of any wide reaching influence—the power to attract the public.

TRAPPERS' PROSPEROUS TIMES.

Furs Worth More Now Than For Past Thirty Years.

The many trappers operating along the northern boarder will reap a rich harvest the present winter, meaning many comforts, even luxuries, in the log cabins of scores of sturdy settlers in the wilds of the northern country, who are mainly dependent upon their traps during the cold months for a livelihood.

The settlers and professionals in the country directly tributary to the Great Lakes look to mink, marten and otter to make their trapping operations profitable, and the pelts of these little animals at present command a higher price than at any time during the past thirty years, while there has been a decided slump in the prices paid for furs from the black, blue and silver fox which bring only $50 each now, where a year or two ago they were as high as $300 apiece.

Last winter $4.50 was considered a good price for a mink pelt, and it wasn't more than a season or two back that $2.50 was the highest paid for a single pelt of this kind. Now a choice raw mink fur will bring $11, and a marten pelt from $18 to $20, where $6 or $7 was paid last winter. An otter skin is worth $22 just as it comes from the trapper's hands, which is away above any price paid for more than thirty years. Quite a few fisher are caught through northern Minnesota and these are worth from $8 to $10. Beaver are very scarce in this state. They are worth from $7 to $9 each.

The higher prices paid for furs will also prove a boon to the Minnesota Indians, or such of them at least as have any business ability. A good many of the Indians trap during the winter, but the trouble with the majority of them is that they do not know the value of their catch and are likely to sell a $22 otter pelt for $4 or $5, and a $11 mink pelt for a dollar, or perhaps a pint of whiskey. The white man is well aware of this fact, and some agents make it their business during the winter to do nothing but buy furs of the Indians, selling them later at a handsome margin of profit.

These agents usually travel from reservation to reservation by dog team or snow shoes.

Even the little weasel, scores of which daily leave their tiny tracks in the snow on the outskirts of the towns are worth $1 each for their pelts. They were valueless three years ago, and two years ago were worth 10 cents each. For a time last winter the pelts brought 50 cents each. The weasel also belongs to the homologue of the American sable together with the marten, mink, fisher and otter. The American sable really is the marten, according to some authorities. It is commonly called the pine marten, and at first glance the only distinguishing feature between it and the mink is a spot of beautiful orange color on its throat, just under the chin.

A grizzly bear skin is worth $40, if in the best condition, but of course grizzly bears are unknown in the Lake Region. Many black bears are trapped and shot, however, by settlers, Indians and trappers.

Woman's Sweet Will.

On a pillar erected in Canterbury, appears the following:

"Where is the man who has the power and skill
To stem the torrent of a woman's will;
For if she will, she will, and you may depend on't,
And if she won't she won't, and that's the end on't."

Evolution of Woman.

When Eve brought woe to all mankind
Old Adam called her wo-man.
But when she woo-ed with love so kind,
He then pronounced her woo-man.
But now with folly and with pride,
Their husbands' pockets trimming,
The ladies are so full of whims
The people call them whim-men.

UNCLE SAM'S SECOND NAVY

GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR REVENUE OFFICERS.

Plenty of Work and Study—Lack of Social Events a Feature of This Governmental School.—Daily Regime of the Cadets.

Uncle Sam has one governmental school which, while little known, is well worthy to rank with West Point and Annapolis in the thoroughness of the mental and physical training which it gives its graduates. This unheralded educational institution is located at Arundel Cove on Chesapeake Bay, about six miles from the city of Baltimore, and its purpose is to prepare for their profession the cadets or future commissioned officers of the United States Revenue Cutter Service.

It is only within a few years that the general public has been awakening to a realization of the opportunities and advantages open to an officer in Uncle Sam's "police force of the sea." In consequence of which there has been of late a marked increase in the applications for admission to the cadet school. Any young man not less than 18 nor more than 25 years of age and not less than 5 feet 3 inches in height is, if unmarried, eligible to appointment as a cadet, but no person should delude themselves with the idea that it is easy to get into the cadet corps, for the entrance examinations are quite as severe as those at either West Point or Annapolis.

However, all the examinations for the selection of cadets are strictly competitive. Political and social influences are entirely eliminated and this is unquestionably the most democratic school under the government. The cadet spends three years at the training school, each summer being devoted to a practice cruise on a bark-rigged vessel during which the young men get a taste of all kinds of sea duties and incidentally store up good health for the academic year, which extends from October to May.

The pay of a cadet is $500 a year and a ration of 30 cents a day, out of which allowance he is required to purchase uniforms and textbooks and meet his mess expenses. The sum of $10 per month is also withheld from the pay of each cadet in order that upon graduation he can purchase the uniform and outfit of a commissioned officer. When the cadet graduates he receives a commission as a third lieutenant in the Revenue Cutter Service at a salary of $1,400 per year. Three promotions will bring him to the rank of captain with $2,500 salary per year and an increase of ten per cent. for each five years' service.

A Strenuous Life.

The cadets at the training school on Chesapeake Bay lead a strenuous existence. They "turn out" at 6:30 o'clock in the morning and after half an hour allowed for dressing, report for drill which continues for forty-five minutes ere the call for breakfast is given. From 9 until 12:30 o'clock there are periods of study and recitation, then half an hour for recreation before dinner, which is served from one to two o'clock. In the afternoon there is more study and recitation with forty-five minutes' drill. Half an hour before supper and one hour after supper are allowed for amusement and then from 7 to 9 comes another study period. An hour of "skylarking" closes the day and the cadets turn in at 10 o'clock.

During the three year interim the future Revenue Cutter officers acquire a wide range of book learning including mathematics, English, history, law, hygiene, seamanship, engineering, astronomy, chemistry, civil government, etc. Incidentally muscle building is looked after by means of the "setting up" and other athletic drills.

While the officers in charge of the training school for Revenue Cutter cadets fully realize that all work and no play makes for dullness, no such promience is given to social features as is the case at the academies at Annapolis and West Point. The Revenue Cutter cadets are at liberty on Saturday afternoons and these half holidays are usually devoted to "hops," but aside from these functions and such merry-making as can be crowded into the two weeks' vacation in the autumn or the vacation of one week in the spring, the young men apply themselves pretty closely to their studies.

BALDWIN'S NEW AIRSHIP.

Believed by Experts to Surpass any Flying Machine Yet Constructed.

Captain Thomas Baldwin believes he has found a way to navigate the air with fair success. Captain Baldwin, be it known, is America's foremost aeronaut, having been engaged in the profession of sailing to the clouds longer and more continuously than any other citizen of the republic. He began ballooning in the ordinary way nearly a quarter of a century ago. Then he invented the modern type of parachute and in his inventing and experimenting, went from one thing to another until he hit upon the dirigible balloon type of airship.

In the past half decade Captain Baldwin, who makes his home in Los Angeles, California, has built five different sky craft, all on this general pattern, but each different in many respects from its predecessor. He hopes to improve on even the new airship which has recently been completed, but the fact remains that this latest flying machine is so far superior to everything that has gone before it that it is well worthy of notice.

In the new airship the gas bag or balloon which lifts it has a capacity of 16,000 cubic feet of gas or nearly twice as much as the bag of the one which Captain Baldwin exhibited at the St. Louis Exposition. It is made of Japan silk, oiled inside and out. From this bag there is suspended by means of a net of cotton seine twine a framework which contains the propelling and steering apparatus of the airship and which is known as the "keel." In Captain Baldwin's earlier inventions this was built of steel tubing and each frame cost $700, but in the new airship the keel is of Oregon spruce, the lightest and strongest wood in existence.

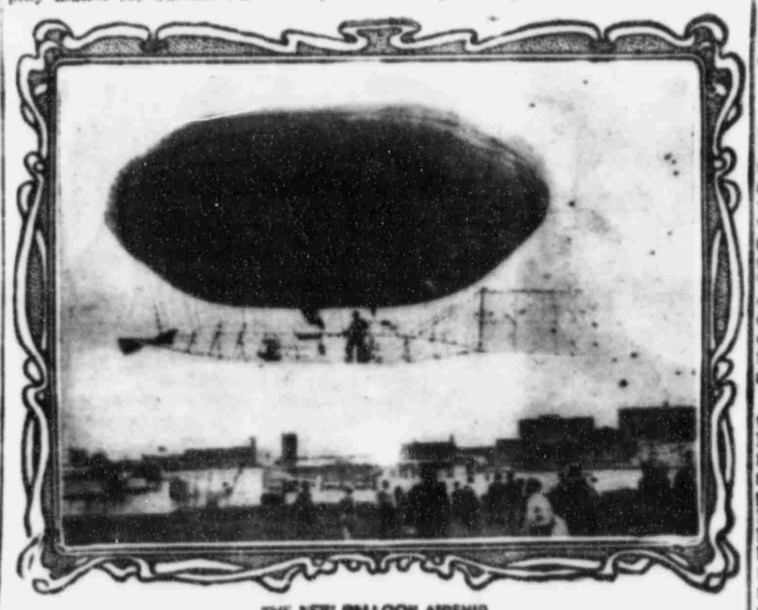
A Powerful Little Engine.

The engine which furnishes power for driving the baloon is located about midway on the keel. It consists of a gasoline motor very similar to those in use on motor-cycles. The motor weighs about 75 pounds, is capable of 3,000 revolutions per minute, and able to develop 7½ horsepower, but it is seldom if ever that so much energy is required even when the aerial flyer is facing a heavy wind.

Attached to the keel at the forward end of the airship is the propeller, which is eleven feet in diameter and has two 18 inch blades of painted canvas. These blades whirl around at the rate of two hundred times per minute, but it will be observed that this propeller is at the forward end of the ship instead of at the stern, where it might naturally be looked for, and this gives the keynote to one of Captain Baldwin's most important inventions, namely, the scheme of having the rapidly revolving propeller pull the ship through the air instead of pushing it as a ship is pushed through the water.

Nearly fifty feet from the propeller, at the other end of the keel is the rudder by which the steering is accomplished. This rudder is about six by eight feet in size and consists of canvas stretched upon a wooden frame. Attached to the framework of the keel is also a tank which is capable of holding two gallons of gasoline. The navigator of the new Baldwin airship has nothing in the way of a platform on which to stand, but must balance himself on the skeleton framework of the keel, bracing himself by means of the net which suspends the keel from the gas bag.

Baldwin's new airship cost him more than $1,800 and by reason of the gas required to inflate it as well as other expenses, each ascension costs in the neighborhood of $250. The hydrogen gas which is employed to lift the balloon and to maintain it in a position where the propeller can do its work is manufactured by combining iron filings or borings, sulphuric acid and water on the basis of one part acid and one part iron to four parts water. This gas is generated in a big tank and is led through a rubber hose to the balloon.



THE NEW BALLOON AIRSHIP.

Too Rapid Jack—"Yes, I had a little balance in the bank, but I got engaged two months ago, and now——"
Slowgo Tom—"Ah! love makes the world go round."
Too Rapid Jack—"Yes, but I didn't think it would go round so fast as to make me lose my balance."

THE NATION'S FORESTS.

BRILLIANT ADDRESS AT ANNUAL CONVENTION AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

Secretary Wilson Sounds Warning Note on Forest Destruction—Million Acres Should Be Tree-planted—Everett Hale in Vigorous Speech.

Secretary Wilson has more than once manifested a deep interest in the question of American Forestry. Mr. Wilson has, in fact, for some years been elected and re-elected President of the American Forestry Association, a powerful organization, composed of public-spirited men throughout the country, which has probably done more than any other one influence to awaken national interest in the enormous destruction of the forests and the necessity for their business-like management and preservation, even to the reforestation of denuded areas and the planting of trees upon barren prairie lands.

That the movement in the United States is coming to be considered an important one is to some extent evidenced by the increased recognition of the subject by Congress, which is also due largely to Secretary Wilson's enthusiasm. When Mr. Wilson was appointed Secretary of Agriculture by President McKinley, his forestry division consisted of one forester, an assistant forester and five clerks and with an annual appropriation from

REV. EDWARD EVERETT HALE.

Congress for forestry of $30,000. Since then forestry division has been advanced into a separate bureau of the Department of Agriculture, employing over 500 men and having an annual appropriation from Congress of upwards of one-half a million dollars. Fully a million acres of forest lands in the eastern part of the United States have been turned over to the Bureau of Forestry for management on a practical and scientific basis which will enable the cutting of the forest for lumber and at the same time insuring succeeding crops of timber, while over 100,000,000 of the acres of government Forest reserves in the west have also been turned over to the Bureau of Forestry for administration. It is probable that at least another 50,000,000 acres of public timber land will be placed in federal reserves.

Secretary Wilson in his opening address at the recent annual meeting of the American Forestry Association in Washington, uttered a clear note of warning against the wholesale reduction of the woodland area in the country.

"No nation on earth is as successful in the work of destroying its forests as the United States," he declared. "The indiscriminate mutilation of the forests must be stopped, the matter has become one of national interest which can not much longer be ignored by the people or by our legislators."

After advocating the broadest kind of protective forest policy, he touched on the subject of reforesting certain sections. He thought that every day should be an arbor day, that every year should mark a notable advance in the effort to recover lost ground.

Plant A Million Acres.

"We should plant," he said, "not 10,000 acres nor stop at 100,000 acres, but should plant 1,000,000 acres in trees, and this would be, viewed from several points, the very best investment which the United States ever made. It would be a paying money investment to the government, and it would be a tremendous help to our agriculture. The price of merchantable timber is increasing with great rapidity, while every one knows the very beneficial effect that has resulted from the planting of wind-breaks in the prairie states."

Another address before the Association by the venerable Edward Everett Hale, now the Chaplain of the United States Senate, constituted a clean-cut statement of the great necessity of prompt action to protect the forests. Dr. Hale is around eighty years of age; he remembers when the saw and the ax had scarce touched the giant monarchs in Ohio Valley, when the forests of northern Michigan and Minnesota were unbroken wildernesses, and when those of the far northwest, in that marvelous country "where rolls the Oregon," were a *terra incognita*. He has seen whole states denuded of their valuable timber and burned over by devastating fires due to reckless and wasteful methods, he has seen the axman and the millman move westward, swiftly and surely mowing down everything in his course until there is practically no section he has left uninvaded.

At the present rate of timber cutting in the United States, 40 years from to-day there will be not an acre left of merchantable timber.

Common Sense Forestry.

"What are we going to do?" asked Dr. Hale in his deep voice. "We must use both common sense and sentiment in dealing with the forest question. It is a very great question. The individuals interested in American forestry, even though they be millionaires or multi-millionaires, can not accomplish anything definite and lasting unless the states and the general government can be awakened to the necessity of giving the cause large and substantial assistance which it merits. Common sense, in forestry, means that the forestry question should be put upon a business basis. In order to make a large, immediate profit forests are destroyed; they should be cut with some reference to the future; in other words they should be cropped. All the governments of Europe rely largely upon their forest lands for revenue. A similar condition should and could be brought about in this country."

THE SUNSHINE SOCIETY.

An Organization Which Brings Good Cheer Into Darkened Hearts.

Among the many societies organized by the generous men and women of to-day for the welfare and happiness of others none has quite so interesting a history and unique a character as the International Sunshine Society.

It is so broad in its scope that it embraces all the charities, yet is in itself no sense a charity, but an interchange of kindly greeting and the passing on of good cheer, material or otherwise. Sunshiners do not labor under any rules, but there is always the personal touch of sympathy which means so much to the unfortunate man or woman to whom fate has seemed unkind.

A more appropriate name could not have been found for the society, the members of which pledge themselves to bring sunshine into the lives of others; to do something each day to lighten someone's burden; to speak the cheerful word that may bring new hope, new life and energy; to take notice of the lonely; to do the little acts of kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity that manifest the human, sympathetic interest in one's fellow creatures.

Opportunities for doing a kindness are often lost for lack of thought; the members of the Sunshine Society strive to cultivate the habit of sympathy that will give them a keener grasp and a deeper understanding of the lives of those around them.

The Society is unique in that there are no salaries paid. The president-general, every minor officer and member gives his or her services. Even the necessary clerical work is freely donated. The personal sacrifices that every officer and member makes to carry on the work cannot be estimated.

Its Origin and Growth.

The Society was incorporated under the laws of New York in 1900 and today there are 400,000 enrolled members.

The Society is the outgrowth of a thought expressed by Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden in the office of the New York Recorder several years ago during the holiday season. Mrs. Alden was the recipient of a number of cards from her co-workers on the paper as well as outside friends. After enjoying the cards, she protested that she would have been better pleased if the donors had not written their names on them. This statement horrified her audience and with one accord every one exclaimed:

"What! You wouldn't give our presents away, would you?"

"Why not?" was the answer. "What do you do with yours?"

A laughing investigation soon developed the fact that the waste basket was the ultimate destination of most of the cards received.

"Let me give you the history of one pretty ten-cent card that came to me a year ago," said Mrs. Alden. "It had an exquisite poem on it, and I enjoyed it so much that I thought at once of an old uncle who would appreciate it and forwarded it to him. He, as I thought, did enjoy it, and so much so that he immediately recalled an old friend to whom it would appeal with special force. So he copied the poem and sent the card on. This recipient found the card so helpful that she, too, felt called upon to pass it on and before the seven days' holiday was over the card had carried its Christmas message to six different persons. Of course this is exceptional, but is still an example of the infinite possibilities of a gift accepted in the true spirit and then passed on, giving each one the double delight of receiving and giving."

The cards which had afforded the little sermon were spread out and were

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